



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**®
Galveston District

News Release

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Army Corps of Engineers nourishes Padre Island beaches in time for Spring Break holiday

SOUTH PADRE ISLAND, Texas – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District, has undertaken a dredging and beach nourishment project that will benefit visitors to the popular Texas Spring Break location.

A contract was awarded December 2009 to Weeks Marine Inc. for dredging of the inside jetty channel across the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway into the main channel near South Padre Island, Texas, and then up the Port Isabel channel to the turning basin.

“This is a double win for the residents, businesses and Spring Break goers in the Padre Island area,” said Chip Worley, Brownsville Office Resident Engineer with the Galveston District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. “Not only do we take care of our mission of keeping America’s waterways navigable, but we also turn that mission into a benefit for homeowners, tourists and businesses.”

Approximately 200,000 cubic yards of dredged material will be placed on Padre Island beaches as a result of this operation, according to Worley.

“This beach nourishment project, called beneficial use, seeks to employ environmentally and economically responsible ways to utilize dredged materials to benefit local communities,” said Worley. “Through beach nourishment, we can improve eroded coastlines through the placement of this dredged material.”

Work began mid-February and is scheduled to be completed by March 12 in order to avoid both the turtle nesting season and Spring Break.

The contract award was for \$16,134,750.



A pipeline dredge deposits material on the beach at South Padre Island.